

ANTIBACTERIC COMPOSITION TO BE USED AS MOUTHWASH FOR SANITIZING THE BUCCAL CAVITY**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

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The present invention relates to an antibacterial composition, which can be specifically used as a mouthwash composition for sanitizing the buccal cavity.

As is known, an unsuitable and continued poor hygiene of the buccal cavity, represents, according to recent odontological and biologic studies, the primary cause of different pathologies of the dental apparatus and related mucogingival districts.

Paraodontoid diseases, ulcerative stomatites, tissue necroses, and halitoses of the buccal cavity depend, in most cases, on bacteric and fungin infections, persisting from long time periods on the tooth surfaces and adjoining tissues, probably never processed and hindered in their development in a suitable manner.

Also known is the fact that at present, among several sanitary compositions specifically designed for a prophylactic treatment of teeth, gums, buccal mucouses very important are the so-called antibacterial mouthwashes.

These preparations are conventionally constituted by aromatized aqueous solutions, containing hydrosoluble microbiocide principles, which are used for performing cleansing and refreshing rinsing operations in the buccal cavity.

However, microbiocide properties of the above mentioned mouthwash compositions, in a lot of cases, have not been found as efficient, since the contacting time between the dental apparatus and the 5 mouthwash composition is of a short duration.

Moreover, prior mouthwash compositions, exclusively including hydrosoluble antiseptic substances, are removed, by a quick rinsing operation, after their use.

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SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Accordingly, the aim of the present invention is to provide such a mouthwash composition, 15 for sanitizing the buccal cavity, and which is specifically designed to hinder the development of bacteria, while optimally removing bacteria from the tooth solid surfaces and periodontal mucous tissues, thereby overcoming the drawbacks affecting prior art 20 mouthwash compositions.

Within the scope of the above mentioned aim, a main object of the present invention is to provide such a mouthwash composition which is specifically adapted to extend in the time its 25 hygienizing activity.

According to the present invention, novel stable emulsified antibacterial mouthwash compositions are herein disclosed, which mouthwash compositions comprise specifically designed 30 "lipophile compounds".

In the above oil compounds, having a high substantiveness for the dentinal and gingival tissue,

antiseptic substances, exclusively soluble in an oil phase, can be dissolved.

Thus, by using the above mentioned composition, it is possible to form, through the overall buccal cavity and, more specifically, on the teeth, an oil film, which cannot be easily removed by rinsing with water, which film is adapted to extend in the time the hygienizing activity of the composition.

Moreover, the provision, in each individual composition or preparation, of two functional microbiocide substances, dispersed in different phases (i.e. an aqueous and an oil phase) can synergically enhance the individual biologic properties of said substances.

EXAMPLE

A mouthwash composition, in the form of a stabile emulsified opaque liquid, in which the two component phases, i.e. the oil phase and the aqueous phase, were respectively added with oil-soluble and hydrosoluble antiseptic substances, has been prepared.

In particular, the emulsion composition can be based on different ratios of the two aqueous and oil phases.

In particular, the aqueous phase can vary from about 60% w/w to about 95% w/w.

In addition to the main component, i.e. water, the above mentioned aqueous phase can be integrated by other hydrosoluble substances, such as

moistening substances (glycerol, sorbitol, xylitol, glycol), alcohols (ethyl, propylalcohols), fluorinated salts, sweetening agents (saccharine, aspartames) coloring substances, pH adjusting agents 5 and so on.

In such a phase are always present an emulsifying system of oil in water (O/W) type, as well as a water soluble antibacteric substance, suitable to form stable emulsions.

10 The oil phase can vary from a minimum of about 5% w/w to a maximum of about 40% w/w.

Said oil phase can comprise vegetable oils, mineral oils, aliphatic esters, aliphatic ethers, aliphatic alcohols, tryglicerides and aliphatic 15 hydrocarbons.

The mouthwash composition according to the present invention can further comprise aromatizing substances and oil-soluble antibacteric substances.

It has been found from a lot of practical 20 experiments and tests, that the mouthwash composition according to the present invention is adapted to properly sanitizing the buccal cavity, while hindering the development or growth of and optimally removing bacteria from the solid dental surfaces and 25 periodontal mucous tissues.